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HOUSE BILL 962 By
Hargett

SENATE BILL 858
By Person

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 3,
relative to discounts at state parks for certain persons.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following language as new, appropriately designated sections:

11-3-1____.

(a) Tennessee citizens sixty-five (65) year of age or older shall be allowed to play
golf on courses in state parks on the Monday of each week which does not fall on a
"legal holiday" (as designated in § 15-1-101) without payment of greens fees, upon
showing satisfactory proof of age and residence when applying at the club house for
permission to play.

(b) This section does not apply to courses in state parks operated by a private
management company or a municipal or county government agency where the private
management company or municipal or county government agency has a direct financial
risk in the operations of the course.

11-3-1____.

Residents of Tennessee who are over sixty-five (65) years of age or older shall be permitted, upon showing satisfactory proof of age, to engage in sport fishing and hunting in state parks without payment of any fee or cost required by the park to be paid in order to fish or hunt in such park, except that such permission shall not extend to participating in any managed or controlled hunt in any such park.

11-3-1____.

(a) There shall be provided for bona fide residents of Tennessee sixty-two (62) years of age or older a program whereby such persons may obtain a fifty percent (50%) discount on camping fees charged at all parks within the Tennessee state park system.

(b) The department of environment and conservation is hereby authorized and directed to devise and furnish free of charge applications requiring satisfactory proof of residence and age of program participants, to issue complimentary courtesy cards or provide such other means as may be appropriate to identify approved participants, and to promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be reasonably necessary and incidental to the efficient administration of such program, including specifically, the regulation or limitation of days of the week or seasons of the year during which this discount shall be in effect.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-3-121, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

In addition to the discounts and free programs specifically provided for in this part, the commissioner shall also offer discounted rates for other activities, programs, and lodging at the state parks to senior citizens, disabled persons, state employees, members of the Tennessee national guard, and any other group that the commissioner deems appropriate for such treatment. The specific activities where these discounts would apply as well as the timing and amount will be left to the commissioner's discretion.

SECTION 3. It is the legislative intent to restore the discounted rates and free programs for senior citizens in effect at state parks prior to June 23, 2000, which shall be in addition to the discounted rates provided for in § 11-3-121, as amended by this act.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of environment and conservation is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.